

REMARKS

These remarks are in response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2008, which has a shortened statutory period for response set to expire January 28, 2009, and a telephone request from Examiner Brandon Jackson of April 23, 2009. A three-month extension, to expire April 28, 2009, is requested in a petition filed herewith.

Interview Summary

Applicants' attorney Larry E. Henneman, Jr. received a telephone call from Examiner Brandon Jackson on April 23, 2009. Examiner Jackson indicated that all claims were in condition for allowance except for Claim 42. Examiner Jackson indicated that Claim 42 was distinguished over the prior art of record, but was concerned that there was no antecedent basis in the specification for the claim term "means for continuously pushing."

Examiner Jackson suggested amending the specification at Page 5, Line 24 to provide antecedent basis for "means for continuously pushing." Mr. Henneman agreed. It was agreed that the addition of the following sentence would resolve the antecedent basis issue: "Such biasing members provide a means for continuously pushing said lower leg engaging means and said foot engaging means in opposite directions."

Applicants appreciate Examiner Jackson's constructive assistance.

Specification

The specification is amended to provide antecedent basis for "means for continuously pushing," as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully assert that the amendment resolves any potential issues under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Paragraph 6.

Claims

Claims 1-45 are pending in the above-identified application. As indicated above in the Interview Summary, Claims 1-45 are considered to be in condition for allowance. No amendments to the claims are made herein.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe Claims 1-45 are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner undertake any action other than allowance of Claims 1-45, or if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' attorney at (269) 279-8820.

Respectfully submitted,

April 23, 2009

/Larry E. Henneman, Jr./

Date: _____

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being electronically filed or transmitted via facsimile, on the date shown below, to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, at (571) 273-8300.

Date: April 23, 2009

/Larry E. Henneman, Jr./

Larry E. Henneman, Jr.